

the first and second signals establishing a main code as a function of their mathematical relationship;

subjecting the metallic security strip to an authenticity test to derive a third signal;

deriving from the main code and the third signal a fourth signal representative of the at least one property of the document.

2 ~~15~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the electrical energy is coupled to different planes of the electrically conductive material.

3 ~~16~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the transmitter comprises at least two electrodes and wherein the width of the electrically conductive material is at least equal to the width of two electrodes.

4 ~~17~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the width of the electrically conductive material is at least equal to the adjacent transmitter and receiver.

5 ~~18~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the electrically conductive material comprises at least two structures of different electrical conductivity and wherein the first signal is derived from separately establishing the electrical conductivity of the two structures.

6 ~~19~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the property tested is the value of the document.

7 ~~20~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the property tested is the authenticity of the document.

8 ~~21~~ (New) The method of claim ~~14~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the property tested is the degree

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